Quick Key: Economists vs. Manufactured Experts and Hackademics

How to discern authentic economists from manufactured experts (posing as economists) and hackademics (some of which are bought off dishonest actors and some of which are just hacks) among public intellectuals and celebrity academics who often talk about economic related issues on TV or in print

Topic	Economist	Manufactured Expert or Hackademic
Taxation	Talks about the highest marginal rate only applying to the dollars that fall into the highest bracket.	Pretends the highest marginal rate applies to all of every person's income.
Disposable Income vs. Discretionary Income	Knows the difference (disposable income is income after taxes while discretionary income is income after taxes and essential goods and services) and that disposable income is a rather meaningless measure.	Speaks and/or conducts studies in terms of disposable income in contexts where discretionary income is the appropriate measure (which is almost always).
Stock Market	Knows that the price to book ratio proves the stock market is far removed from the real economy (over 3:1 ratio before the Covid Pandemic).	Conflates the stock market with the economy rather than just something that can implode the economy.
Unemployment	Knows there were at least 20 million actual unemployed (jobless who want jobs) in the US before the Covid Pandemic.	Thinks there were about 5.5 million actual unemployed in the US before the Covid Pandemic or pretends to.
The Circulation of Money Throughout the Economy	Understands the Multiplier Effect and Velocity of Money thoroughly. Talks about them often.	Silent on the Multiplier Effect and the Velocity of Money.
Economic Solutions	Presents real structural solutions to the major problems that undeniably exist.	Not allowed to present real structural solutions even if they could formulate them -- an indication they've been bought off.
On the Success of Nations' Economies	Speaks in terms of quality of life indices, cost of living, and income and discretionary income at the quartiles or quintiles.	Speaks in terms of per capita GDP (instantly revealing they are not economists but rather very basic statisticians at best).
Distribution of Wealth	Advocates for policies that acknowledge 99% is greater than 1%, 50% is greater than 1%, and 90% is greater than 10%.	Advocates for policies that imply that either 10%, 1%, or .1% are the largest numbers from 0%-100% ("trickle down" taxation policies/neo liberal free trade policies).
Capital Flight	Knows the SWIFT System can be used to seize money attempting to exit the country.	Pretends the SWIFT System doesn't exist or doesn't know it exists. Often fear mongers about capital flight.

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